

October 19, 2004

## News Release

## ICE DEPORTS INDIAN ORDERED OUT OF COUNTRY BY JUDGE

Failed to appear for scheduled court date; Courts turned away appeals at all levels

MIAMI- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced today that India citizen Paramvir Singh Chattawal was deported without incident Monday to India.

Chattawal exhausted all legal avenues of relief after losing appeals to the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Chattawal first came to the United States March 15, 1999 as a visitor until July 15, 1999. On July 22, 1999 his immigration status was successfully changed to H-3, or "industrial trainee."

On March 12, 2000, he applied for an immigration benefit and was scheduled to appear before immigration court Aug. 1, 2000. Chattawal failed to appear, so the immigration judge found Chattawal to be ineligible for any benefits and ordered him deported in absentia. Chattawal was listed as a fugitive absconder at that time.

He was arrested Oct. 11, 2003 during routine traffic stop by the Florida Domestic Security Task Force. Because he was a fugitive with a final order, Chattawal was transported to ICE's Bradenton detention center for processing and removal.

The Department of Justice's Executive Office of Immigration Review granted a motion to reopen Chattawal's case in December 2003. An immigration judge later affirmed the final order first issued in 2000.

Chattawal appealed the decision with the Board of Immigration Appeals, but his appeal was dismissed July 29.

A subsequent appeal filed with the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals was denied.

"This case clearly reflects the due process rights that this country affords," said Michael Rozos, field office director for ICE in Miami. "He had his day in court and he failed to appear. A judge issued a removal order and the order was upheld at every level, so ICE carried out the order."

ICE's Office of Detention and Removal promotes public safety and national security by ensuring the departure from the United States of all removable aliens through the fair and effective enforcement of the nation's immigration laws.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.*